

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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41

ACTION VOE-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCA-01 FBO-08 A-01 ARA-10 /021 W
----- 101820

R 101937Z SEP 74
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5723

UNCLAS KINGSTON 3200

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: CVIS, JM
SUBJECT: THE NEW VISA BUILDING; THE PROOF OF
THE PUDDING

1. WE HAVE NOW PASSED THE PEAK VISA ISSUANCE SEASON IN JAMAICA, OUR FIRST IN THE NEW VISA BUILDING OCCUPIED LAST JANUARY. STATISTICS INDICATE A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN BOTH NON-IMMIGRANT AND IMMIGRANT VISA LOADS IN THE PERIOD MAY 1 AUGST 31, 1974 WITH NO INCREASE IN ON-BOARD PERSONNEL OVER THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR. PRESSURE WAS INTENSE, YET THE NEW PLANT PERMITTED SMOOTH, EFFICIENT, AND HUMANE HANDLING OF APPLICANTS. IN MARKED CONTRAST TO THE PREVIOUS YEAR THERE WAS ALMOST NO COMMENT IN THE MEDIA OR PUBLIC ARENA ABOUT U.S. VISA ISSUANCE POLICIES AND PRACTICES. COMMENT WAS RESTRICTED TOA SINGLE EDITORIAL IN A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER AND DID NOT REFER TO THE PHYSICAL FACILITIES OR HANDLING OF VISA APPLICANTS AT ALL.

2. THOUGH THE PRESSURE OF NUMBERS WAS EVEN GREATER THAN LAST YEAR AND ALL THE PROBLEMS RELATED TO POTENTIAL FRAUD REMAINED, BOTH VISA OFFICERS AND APPLICANTS SEEMED CONSIDERABLY CALMER DUE TO IMPROVED CONDITIONS, AND VIOLENT SCENES SO COMMON LAST YEAR WERE THE EXCEPTION RATHER THAN THE RULE.

3. WE REMAIN DEEPLY INDEBTED TO ARA/EX, SCA AND FBO FOR THEIR HELP IN LOCATING, FINANCING, AND REDESIGNING THE NEW VISA BUILDING. THEY CAN TAKE GREAT SATISFACTION FROM THE UNCLASSIFIED

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FAVORABLE OUTCOME.

4. HEREWITH THE STATISTICS FOR THE PERIOD MAY 1 - AUGUST 31,
1974 AND COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

NONIMMIGRANT VISAS

MAY 1 - AUGUST 31, 1973 MAY 1 - AUGUST 31, 1974

ISSUED.....9,313	ISSUED.....12,076
REVALIDATED AND	REVALIDATED AND
TRANSFERRED.....118	TRANSFERRED 4,755
REFUSED.....6,967	REFUSED..... 4,575
TOTAL 19,398	TOTAL 21,406

IMMIGRANT VISAS

ISSUED.....3,652	ISSUED..... 3,622
REFUSED..... 807	REFUSED.....1,034
TOTAL 4,459	TOTAL 4,656

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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